

LVIII.—*Descriptions of Two new Siluroid Fishes from Brazil.* By G. A. BOULENGER, F.R.S.*Brachyplatystoma platynema.*

Vomerine teeth forming a very broad band, broader than the band in the upper jaw, angularly notched behind; another notch between it and the patch of palatine teeth. Head extremely depressed, twice as long as deep, $3\frac{1}{2}$ times in total length. Snout spatulate, rounded, projecting a little beyond the mandible; eye extremely small, in the posterior half of the head, its diameter 4 times in interorbital width; occipital process short, widely separated from the dorsal fin; upper surface of head covered with thin reticulate skin; fontanelle very small. Maxillary and mental barbels much flattened, band-like, the former reaching extremity of ventral, the anterior mentals nearly reaching extremity of pectoral, the posterior mental hinder third of ventral. Branchiostegal rays 12. Dorsal I 6, first ray $\frac{2}{7}$ length of head; adipose fin nearly three times as long as deep, $\frac{3}{4}$ its distance from the rayed dorsal. Anal IV 12, falciform, first branched ray $2\frac{1}{2}$ as long as last. Pectoral $\frac{3}{8}$ length of head, spine feebly serrated. Ventral as long as pectoral, widely separated from anal. Caudal deeply forked, the lobes produced into very long filaments. Caudal peduncle 3 times as long as deep. Dark brown above, lighter beneath.

Total length to middle caudal rays 430 millim.; upper caudal lobe with filament 250.

A single specimen from Pará; presented to the British Museum by Dr. E. A. Goeldi, Director of the Pará Museum.

This species is nearest allied to the recently described *Brachyplatystoma juruense*, Blgr.*, from which it is distinguished by the broader band of teeth on the palate, the longer snout, and the band-like barbels. From *B. Vaillanti*, C. & V., it differs in the above characters and in the smaller eye, the shorter barbels, and the wider separation between the occipital process and the dorsal fin.

LEPTODORAS, gen. nov.

Distinguished from *Oxydoras*, Kner, by the longer body

* The name *Platystoma*, Ag., being preoccupied, has been replaced by that of *Brachyplatystoma*, Eigenm.

and the longer anal fin with 15 to 17 rays. This genus is founded on *Oxydoras acipenserinus*, Gthr., and

Leptodoras juruensis.

No teeth. Depth of body 9 times in total length, length of head 5 times. Head $1\frac{1}{3}$ as long as broad, covered with skin, except on the occiput; snout depressed, pointed; posterior nostril equally distant from the anterior and from the centre of the eye; eye in posterior half of head, its diameter 3 times in length of snout, equal to interorbital width; occiput and occipito-nuchal shield granulated and striated; bases of the six barbels united by the fold of the lower jaw; maxillary barbel branched, not $\frac{1}{2}$ length of head, not reaching gill-opening; latter extending to below centre of eye. Humeral process striated, not $\frac{1}{3}$ as long as pectoral spine. Dorsal I 5, spine very feebly serrated in front, much produced beyond the soft rays, twice as long as head. Adipose fin very small. Anal V 12, its base $2\frac{1}{2}$ as long as that of the dorsal. Pectoral spine $\frac{3}{4}$ length of head, reaching base of ventral, with very strong serræ, especially on the inner side. Ventral a little shorter than pectoral. Lateral shields 44, not measuring $\frac{1}{2}$ the depth of the body, with serrated posterior border and very strong hooked spine. Caudal deeply bifurcate. Brown; pectoral, ventral, and adipose fins, and base of dorsal and anal, blackish.

Total length 235 millim.

A single specimen formed part of a small collection made in the Jurua River by Capt. Martins, and sent to me by Dr. Goeldi. This collection contained besides examples of two species not previously recorded from that river, viz. *Prochilodus insignis*, Schomb., and *Aphyocharax pusillus*, Gthr.

L. juruensis differs from *L. acipenserinus* in the more elongate body, the smooth snout and opercles, the smaller eye, the shorter maxillary barbel, the longer dorsal spine, and the smaller lateral shields.

LIX.—*A Revision of the Pierine Butterflies of the Genus Dercas*. By LIONEL DE NICÉVILLE, F.E.S., C.M.Z.S., &c.

THE name *Dercas* appears to have been a MS. name of Dr. Boisduval's; it first appeared in print in the 'Genera of Diurnal Lepidoptera,' vol. i. p. 70 (1847), and was briefly characterized, though not used in a generic sense, by Mr. Edward Doubleday, to whom, therefore, the genus should be credited, and not to Boisduval, as appears to have been more generally the custom.